Aſplenium trichomanes, Aſplenium ruta-muraria, Aſplenium adiantum nigrum, and Polipodium vulgare with its varieties.

Thoſe which are proper for planting on dry rocks, whether natural or artificial, are Aſplenium adiantum-nigrum, Aſplenium marinum, and Aſplenium ruta-muraria; Polipodium fragile, and Acroſtichum ſeptentrionale: theſe naturally grow on dry and barren rocks. And can any thing be more beautiful than the firm texture, the deep gloſſy green, the elegant diviſions and ſub-diviſions of the firſt, ſecond, third, and fifth of theſe, when contraſted with the ſoft, ſilken, feathery appearance of the fourth?

On moiſt overſhadowed and dripping rocks we find Acroſtichum ilvenſe, Aſplenium trichomanes, Aſplenium viride, Polipodium lonchitis, Polipodium fontanum, Polipodium aculeatum, Adiantum capillus-veneris, and Trichomanes tunbrigenſe.

In dark moiſt and ſhady places, under trees to enrich the ground, Polipodium phegopteris, Polipodium dryopteris, and Aſplenium ſcolopendrium with its varieties.

In lines, or little clumps along the margins of graſs plats, walks, or borders, may be planted Ophioglo ſſum vulgatum, and Oſmunda lunaria.

The roots of the larger kinds of Ferns are firm, well fixed in the ground, and very durable; they continue in the places where

where they have once been planted, and do not ſend out ſuckers or runners to diſturb the neighbouring plants, or to occupy more ſpace of ground than is allotted them; hence they are very proper for planting round the verges of artificial bogs or fiſh-ponds, their roots forming a laſting barrier between the wet and the dry. The ſpecies moſt proper for this purpoſe are Oſmunda regalis, Polipodium filix-mas, Polipodium filix-femina, Polipodium thelypteris, and Polipodium criſtatum.

The ſeeds of Ferns, though very numerous, are extremely ſmall, and never, or very rarely, take root in cultivated ground: they will not therefore render the garden leſs fertile, or incommode the gardener by encreaſing the number of weeds.

The leaves of the larger Ferns, if cut down at the time of their full growth, and properly dried, make a thatch much more durable than that of any kind of ſtraw; and, by their lightneſs and natural warmth, may be uſed as the beſt litter for ſecuring tender ſeedlings from the effects of froſt.

The drawing and etching of the figures are performed wholely by my own hands, from a cloſe and careful inſpection of the plants. The employing an engraver would have been attended with a conſiderable and certain expence; and as the reimburſement was very uncertain, I choſe to undertake it myſelf, though I had never before practiſed the art of etching,

JAMES BOLTON *Filices Britannicae (An History of the British Proper Ferns)* LEEDS, 1785–1790 CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN Octavo